

LESSON PLAN OUTLINE

TITLE: Compare and Contrast... Iditarod vs The Underground Railroad

Developed by: Kari Wright

Discipline / Subject: Literacy, Social Studies

Topic: Compare and Contrast, Text Evidence, Reading Fluency/Comprehension, History

Grade Level: 1-12

Resources / References / Teacher Materials:

1. Passages for each student
2. Copies of Venn Diagram
3. Highlighters
4. M&M's and Skittles
5. Computer/iPad

Student Materials:

- Passages
- iPad/Computer
- Highlighter
- Venn Diagram copies
- M&M's and Skittles

Standards Addressed:

1. 3.RF.4- Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
2. SS.3.17- Analyze the impact slavery and how it shaped early American history.
3. RI.5.5- Compare and contrast events, ideas, concepts, and information.

Learning Objectives:

1. Using grade-appropriate decoding skills
2. Reading with purpose and understanding
3. Utilization of key compare/contrast words
4. Ability to take written details and apply to a Venn Diagram

Assessment:

Create a Venn Diagram with a minimum of 9 comparisons and contrasts between the Iditarod and any standards-based topic.

Procedure (Engagement, Lesson, Conclusion):

1. Begin with a visual. Bring in a school lunch tray and a packed lunch or an iPhone and an iPad. Work with students to find similarities and differences (compare/contrast).
2. Introduce the Venn Diagram if it has not already been. Show different versions of it as age allows...2 circles, 2 squares, 3 circles, etc. Give each student a few M&Ms and Skittles. Work together as a group to create a Venn Diagram together comparing and contrasting their candy.

3. Learn about key words that help us know if something is being compared and contrasted. (both, alike, same as, similar/but, however, unlike, while, instead)
4. Use the passage, “Iditarod vs The Underground Railroad” and a highlighter to look for key words to assist learners as they read.
5. Read the passage aloud in its entirety to them as they follow along. This will give an overall view of the passage. Reread either as a group or with partners and highlight full compare and contrast details.
6. Students will then create a Venn Diagram highlighting a specific number of those details. The diagram can be completed on paper, One can be created digitally using www.classtools.net/Venn, www.canva.com or on www.drawio.com/blog/venn-diagrams. One could also be created using circles of yarn and photos or words placed in the correct locations.

Modifications for Special Learners:

- Make visual cards to be held up as answers.
- Use a hands-on option for making a Venn Diagram with yarn and cards.
- Student uses a laser pen to point where on the Venn Diagram the detail would go
- Work with a partner.
- Adult assistance

Technology:

- iPad or laptop computer (if wanted)

Other Information:

- Any topic can be made into a grade-level passage by going to www.chatgpt.com. When there, ask to compare and contrast the Iditarod to your topic and give the grade level. You will have an instant passage at the level of your students. Some topic ideas based on standards are: financial literacy, multiplication and division, geometry, biological evolution, forces and motion, engineering, solar system, culture and tradition, rules and laws, migration, ancient civilizations, westward expansion, government, following a recipe in cooking. Literally **anything** can be connected with the Iditarod in this manner.

Enrichment Ideas:

- Have a “gallery walk” when finished and have students see the work of others.
- Have students pick any topic of their choice and use www.chatgpt.com for them to make an Iditarod comparison passage to evaluate.
- Create a routine during your day where you “See, Think, Wonder” or “Spy, Suppose, Speculate.” Evaluate 2 photos, one of the Iditarod, and the other of something different. Practice comparing and contrasting those 2 photos daily.

Notes: